

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 MCT-01 SY-05 OC-06

CCO-00 USSS-00 A-01 OPR-02 AID-05 DHA-02 USIE-00

INRE-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 PC-01 OMB-01

SCA-01 IO-13 TRSE-00 EB-07 SCS-03 /111 W

----- 104871

O R 241443Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC 6191

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MASERU 1094

LONDON FOR ASST. SECY. SCHAUFELLE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PROP, LT, SF

SUBJECT: STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST US INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

1. ESTIMATED MORE THAN 300 STUDENTS (SOME OR ALL FROM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO AT ROMA ABOUT 30 MILES FROM MASERU) DEMONSTRATED PEACEFULLY WITH PLACARDS AND SHOUTED SLOGANS ALONG MAIN STREET AND IN FRONT OF EMBASSY. GROUP PASSED BY BUT DID NOT ENTER USIS LIBRARY. DELEGATION OF FOUR WITH PHOTOGRAPHER CAME INTO EMBASSY CHANCERY AND PLACED ANTI-KISSINGER PLACARD IN FRONT OF AMERICAN FLAG. PHOTOGRAPHER TOOK PICTURES OF FLAG AND PLACARD AND MAY ALSO HAVE SNAPPED EMBASSY SECRETARY, HELEN MILLER, WHO ENTERED CHANCERY LOBBY AT JUST THAT MOMENT, NOT HAVING REALIZED WHAT WAS TAKING PLACE. DELEGATION ALSO HANDED OVER LETTER

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ADDRESSED TO U.S. EMBASSY (PARA 3). SMALL POLICE CONTINGENT

FOLLOWED STUDENTS.

2. PLACARD BEARS CARTOON ILLUSTRATION OF SECY. KISSINGER HOLDING ALOFT LARGE NUGGET OF ANZANIA RPT ANZANIA (I.E. SOUTH AFRICAN) GOLD AND CARRYING AFRICA-SHAPED SACK LABELED "CAPITALIST DIPLOMATIC BAG" AND "DOLLARS EXPLOITATION". INSCRIPTION READS "KISSINGER DESECRATES AFRICA" AND "IMPERALISM, CAPITALISM AND COLONIALISM ARE NO. 1 ENEMIES OF THE TOILING MASSES."

3. LETTER DATED SEPT. 24 IS ON LETTERHEAD OF STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO, AND READS AS FOLLOWS:

"WE THE STUDENTS OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO TAKE THIS TIME, AS WE PROTEST/DEMONSTRATE AGAINST THE PRESENT ATROCIOUS MASSACRES AND MASSIVE DETENTIONS OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS BY THE TERRORIST REGIME OF VORSTER IN SOUTH AFRICA, TO CONDEMN YOUR GOVERNMENT'S DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIES THAT ARE CHARACTERIZED BY CONTRADICTIONS UNDERLINED BY YOUR TACIT COLLABORATION WITH THAT REGIME.

"WE ARE PAINFULLY AWARE OF THE VAST DIRECT INVESTMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BY U.S. MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS ATTRACTED BY THE RICH MINERAL DEPOSITS, CHEAP BLACK MIGRANT LABOUR, THE REPRESSIVE LEGALISED STATE MACHINERY OF APARTHEID, VAST INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, RETURNS TO CAPITAL, ETC., AND THAT IN VIEW OF THIS, YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC HYPOCRITICAL OPPOSITION TO APARTHEID BUT AT THE SAME TIME TO RELAX THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ISOLATION OF SOUTH AFRICA. WE ARE AWARE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT, BY CONTINUING TO SUPPLY THE FASCIST AND RACIST REGIME OF VORSTER WITH ARMS IS CLEARLY PERPETUATING THE BRUTAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SUBJUGATION OF THE PEOPLES OF SOUTH AFRICA. WE ARE SOBERLY AWARE OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S SECRETARY OF STATE, DR. H. KISSINGER'S VAIN EFFORTS TO HIJACK THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED STRUGGLES OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA BY TRYING TO IMPOSE "PACKAGE DEALS" THAT CONTAIN OBSOLETE AND UNACCEPTABLE LEADERSHIP ONTO THE OPPRESSED MASSES OF THOSE COUNTRIES, AND HIS SIMULTANEOUS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC LIP SERVICE TO THE PURSUIT OF EQUALITY, JUSTICE, PEACE AND FREEDOM.

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"SUCH ARE THE SHARP CONTRADICTIONS THAT CHARACTERISE YOUR GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES. AND YET WE SAY TO YOU WE ARE JUBILANTLY AWARE OF THE DYNAMICS OF CHANGE THAT ARE OF HISTORIC NECESSITY CALLED FORTH BY SUCH CONTRADICTIONS, AS WITNESSED BY THE HEROIC STRUGGLES OF THE OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE FURTHER STRESS FIRMLY TO YOU THAT THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT AND DIE FOR POLITICAL FREEDOM FROM

FOREIGN IMPERIALIST DOMINATION AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE.

"MR. AMBASSADOR, OURS IS A STRONG PROTEST AND WARNING TO YOUR GOVERNMENT THAT IT MUST STOP COLLABORATING WITH THE FASCIST AND RACIST REGIMES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA THAT CLEARLY REPRESENT A DIRECT AGGRESSION AGAINST HUMANITY.

"POWER TO THE OPPRESSED AND EXPLOITED MASSES OF THE WORLD (EXCLAMATION POINT) YOURS FAITHFULLY, G. RAMOTHEBA, SECRETARY GENERAL (UNSIGNED)."

4. SIMILAR LETTER DELIVERED TO BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION ATTACKING BRITISH INVOLVEMENT IN SA AND COMPLICITY IN SHORING UP VORSTER REGIME. TEXT WILL FOLLOW.

5. EMBASSY MASERU WAS QUERIED INFORMALLY YESTERDAY BY EMBASSY GABORONE WHETHER DEMONSTRATION WAS PLANNED HERE TODAY BUT SOURCE OF REPORT WAS NOT REVEALED. PERHAPS GABORONE CAN REPORT FURTHER ON THIS ASPECT. EMBASSY MASERU MADE LOW KEY INQUIRY AT MIN FON AFF YESTERDAY BUT ELICITED NO SUBSTANTIATION OF A DEMONSTRATION TO BE STAGED TODAY.

6. EMBASSY UNABLE AT THIS TIME TO COMMENT ON LOCAL GENESIS OF DEMONSTRATION BUT SENTIMENTS US INVOLVEMENT AND KISSINGER INITIATIVES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA VOICED BY THE STUDENTS ARE SIMILAR TO RECENT NEGATIVE COMMENTS BY LESOTHO PRIME MINISTER JONATHAN (MASERU 974). NOT CLEAR WHETHER POLICE WERE AWARE OF DEMONSTRATION BEFOREHAND OR PUT TAIL ON THEM ALONG THE WAY.

LOCAL AID SECRETARY CLAIMS AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS OF DELEGATION THAT ENTERED CHANCERY WERE NOT RPT NOT BASOTHO. SHE IDENTIFIED THEM AS PROBABLY RHODESIANS OR ZAMBIANS. UNIVERSITY STUDENT BODY REPORTEDLY INCLUDES SIZABLE MINORITY OF BLACK FOREIGN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STUDENTS, MOSTLY FROM SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES (BOTSWANA, NAMIBIA, RHODESIA, ETC. STOKES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERVENTION, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MASERU01094
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760361-0574
From: MASERU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760923/aaaaatqq.tel
Line Count: 157
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST US INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, LT, SF, US, XJ
To: LONDON STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006